

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 07449 131159Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 W
-----039943 131205Z /46
O 131125Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3588
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 7449

STADIS//////////

EXDIS

FOR VELIOTES FROM LEWIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (MONDALE, WALTER F.)
SUBJECT: VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO ISRAEL

REF: STATE 149303

1. WE DISCUSSED MORNING OF JUNE 13 PROPOSED ANNOUNCEMENT WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (ELIYAHU BEN ELISSAR), WHO HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS CHIEF VISIT CO-ORDINATOR FOR GOI. AS WE EXPECTED, GOI IS INSISTING THAT IT BE OFFICIAL HOST FOR VISIT. JOINT INVITATION TO THE VICE PRESIDENT WOULD BE IN THE NAME OF PRIME MINISTER BEGIN AND SPEAKER OF THE KNESSET YITZHAK SHAMIR.

2. TEXT OF COMMENT IN PARAGRAPH 2 REFTTEL IS AGREEABLE TO GOI AND EMBASSY WHEN MODIFIED TO REFLECT OFFICIAL GOI INVITATION. THEY OPPOSE ANY MENTION OF ISRAEL-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY. BEN ELISSAR SAID GOI WOULD TALK TO DULZIN ABOUT THIS AND ADVISE US ON THE RESULTS OF THEIR DISCUSSION.

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3. BEN ELISSAR FAVORS SIMULTANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS IN WASHINGTON AND JERUSALEM. GOI IS WILLING TO GO ALONG WITH WHATEVER TIMING WASHINGTON FINDS CONVENIENT. I STRONGLY URGE WE AIM FOR ANNOUNCEMENT AT NOON TOMORROW (JUNE 14) WASHINGTON TIME SINCE:
(A) TO EXTENT POSSIBLE, I WANT TO DIVORCE ACCEPTANCE

OF INVITATION IN PUBLIC'S MIND WITH IMMINENT CABINET
DECISION ON OUR WEST BANK/GAZA QUESTIONS; AND (B)
THE PROBABILITY OF A LEAK IS INCREASING BY THE HOUR.
EITHER I, DICK VIETS OR SAM HART WILL PHONE YOU TODAY
AT NOON YOUR TIME TO DISCUSS THIS FURTHER.

4. WE REVIEWED BRIEFLY WITH BEN ELISSAR ILLUSTRATIVE
SCHEDULE CONTAINED IN TEL AVIV 7359 AND TOLD HIM THAT
WE EXPECTED WASHINGTON REACTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS TODAY.
HE WILL CONSULT WITH HIS COLLEAGUES AND PROBABLY
WILL MEET WITH EMBASSY CONTROL OFFICER ON JUNE 14.
BEN ELISSAR ALERTED US TO GOI WISH THAT DEPARTURE ON
JULY 3 BE AS LATE AS POSSIBLE IN THE AFTERNOON TO
ENABLE VICE PRESIDENT TO "AT LEAST VISIT" A KNESSET
SESSION.

5. OUR THOUGHTS ON GIFT FOLLOW SEPTTEL.
LEWIS

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